

The Giants, Lowest of the Low in Last Pennant Race, Now Come High

Tex Rickard Says Willard Will Face Moran in Ring Here

Articles of Agreement on Way West and Call for \$30,000 to the Champion and \$15,000 to His Opponent for Ten-Round Bout Early in March.

By IGORE.

Jess Willard, world's heavyweight champion, has agreed to box Frank Moran ten rounds in New York for Tex Rickard and Sam McCracken. Willard, through Tom Jones, has accepted \$30,000 for his end, and Moran has closed with the promoters, taking a flat guarantee of \$15,000 for his part in the struggle for the ring's greatest title. It is proposed that the contest take place some time in March.

Tex Rickard admitted last night that he had thrown his old sombrero into the world's heavyweight championship ring. The man who succeeded in bringing Jack Johnson and Jim Jeffries to the scratch made no secret of his intentions to join hands with Samuel McCracken. Tex was round hombobbing with a number of Wall Street money kings at the Waldorf. He excused himself long enough to say:

"Yes, I'll have to admit that I am putting up the money for a Willard-Moran fight. I have offered Jess Willard \$30,000 cash for his end, and his manager, Tom Jones, has already accepted by wire. The contracts were made out and shipped on to Jones to sign yesterday."

"I offered Moran \$15,000 for his end, and Ike Dorgan, his manager, has accepted that figure as being satisfactory. We did not mention percentage and they haven't broached the subject."

"It's true that we intend to hold the fight at the Hippodrome. It's the largest place in America, and McCracken, a born showman, agrees with me that there must be none of the element of a side show about this match. The largest place is the classic, and that's us. We have told those concerned that we will put up the entire purse of \$45,000 forty-eight hours before the fight takes place. We will split the purse evenly among the men sign, that money to be split between the men should we fail to go through with our contract."

"Of course, we want the Hippodrome, and from the conferences we have had with the managers of that great show house we feel sure that we can secure the place for a night at least. If we do not succeed in getting it, we will not be a bit surprised. We can get the money into a small place just as well, the only difference being that we will have to charge more for the seats."

"You know I'm in Wall Street every day, and I know the temper of the men there. There never has been such a desire to see a fight as exists there right now concerning a meeting between Moran and Willard. I can place my finger on enough men to-morrow morning that will guarantee a gate of \$100,000. That's our aim—a gate of that proportion. It will take between \$50,000 and \$60,000 to conduct the contest."

"Moran is a great card just now. You'd be amazed if you knew how many men stand ready to back him against Willard. Why, last night a fight went all through the Waldorf, where I live, with \$100,000 in his hand, only to bet it at even money. Moran whips Willard and he found no takers. He was a friend of mine, and he knew I was working on a meeting between the pair. They will draw an immense gate."

"There will be no honey business about arranging it, we do. We will always hear about anything that we do. 'What's What' will be our motto. We have the Hippodrome in mind, but if that place should not be available then we will turn to the next best place. I am not at liberty to say just what arena we have in mind. You may be sure that it will be the best in the world. We are in the thing now, and the excitement of it is so great that we may easily talk out of it. Tex doesn't need money, and I'm sure that I don't. He will be perfectly satisfied to break even after the two big fellows are paid a total of \$32,500."

think the betting will be about 8 to 5, with Moran on the short end, naturally. That's a champion's privilege.

When seen at the Prince George Hotel last night McCracken said: "The thing is closed practically. Willard has accepted \$30,000 and Tex has offered to give us our offer of \$15,000. We are in this thing to see it through to the finish, and you can depend upon it that it will be the classiest heavyweight fight in the history of the ring. Tex Rickard and I are in the thing on the fifty-fifth basis, and you New York fellows know enough about Tex to realize that it will have to be a big thing or he wouldn't have a finger on it."

"What's What" will be our motto. We have the Hippodrome in mind, but if that place should not be available then we will turn to the next best place. I am not at liberty to say just what arena we have in mind. You may be sure that it will be the best in the world. We are in the thing now, and the excitement of it is so great that we may easily talk out of it. Tex doesn't need money, and I'm sure that I don't. He will be perfectly satisfied to break even after the two big fellows are paid a total of \$32,500."

"I have come to the conclusion that it will cost close to \$60,000 to hold the bout. Rickard and myself count on that outfit. You can readily see that we will have to be on the jump every minute from now on. It will be the best receipts I've ever seen."

"Personally, I like Moran's chances. He is every bit as fast as Willard; in fact, I think much faster. Jess will find it hard work to get started in ten rounds after such a long lay-off. I advertised affair in all ring history."

Bits of Baseball Chatter Heard on Winter Diamond

By FRANK O'NEILL.

Molla Bjurstedt, woman national lawn tennis champion, lays down three rules for those who would succeed in lawn tennis: First, hit the ball hard; second, hit it where your opponent cannot get it; third, keep your temper, and your tongue better than your teeth.

Ty Cobb agreed with the first two, but not with the last. And picture John Evers obeying Section 2, Rule 8.

Harry Sinclair is threatened with politics. The Republican party wants him to accept the nomination for Mayor of the city of Tulsa. Sinclair runs about everything in Tulsa as it is, so why bother? He owns the bank, the newspaper, most of the oil and some other things.

Steve Yerkes, once with the Boston Red Sox, is sought by the Chicago Cubs. Steve played with the Pittsburgh Rebels last season, and Joe Tinker says that he is one of the best infielders in the game to-day. He may replace McCarthy, whom the Cubs bought a lot of dough for any baker."

Harry Sinclair says that Lee Magee will not be sold for any such paltry sum as \$15,000. Any one who is not prepared to bid at least \$20,000 for the star second sacker of the Tip Tops had better think again.

The St. Louis Browns have marched right down on Palestine, Tex., and captured it without a shot being fired in its defense. It was whispered for a while that the Brooklyn Superbas-

would train there if the diamond at Daytona was not in proper condition.

The Boston Braves will have their chance to decide whether or not Walter Johnson is a good pitcher. They will play two games with the Senators in Washington this spring. April 5 and 6 are the dates.

Dave Davenport and Eddie Plank have not affixed their signatures to contracts with the St. Louis Browns, but Fielder Jones is not worried.

Jimmy Callahan used to be a plumber in his youth. Just as soon as a man becomes famous some one starts rattling the skeleton. How much more romantic if Jimmy "just grew up a ball player."

Shoot Bill Denovan at sunrise for this: Bill Hannigan said to him yesterday: "Will you give \$15,000 for Baker, now, Bill?" And Wild William replied: "Fifteen thousand dollars is a lot of dough for any baker."

INDIANS ARE STILL FAR FROM SOLD

Chicago, Jan. 12.—President Johnson of the American League returned here to-day and said there was virtually no change in the status of negotiations for the sale of the Cleveland Indians.

"It would be safe to say that a little progress has been made," said Mr. Johnson. "I am going to return to Cleveland to-morrow."

Harry N. Hempstead is still the proud owner of the Giants.

John B. Foster, secretary of the Giants, announced the schedule of exhibition contests, for the young team members, starting with Dallas on March 4 and 5. Their itinerary will be as follows: March 4 and 5, Dallas at Dallas; March 11 and 12, Waco at Waco; March 18, Houston at Houston; March 19, Galveston at Galveston; March 27, Denison at Denison; March 26, Oklahoma City at Oklahoma City; March 27, State University at Norman, Okla.; March 28, Oklahoma City at Oklahoma City; March 29, Fort Smith at Fort Smith; March 31, Little Rock at Little Rock; April 1, Little Rock at Little Rock; April 2, en route April 3, Birmingham at Birmingham; April 5, Augusta at Augusta; April 6, Columbia at Columbia; April 8, Norfolk at Norfolk.

Cubs to Do Spring Training at Tampa

Chicago, Jan. 12.—The Chicago National League team will train for next season at Tampa, Fla., carrying the plans made by Roger Bernhard and President Thomas before the sale of the team to Charles H. Weegham. Four games will be played there by the Cubs and the Phils from March 18 to 22.

Indoor Polo Games Won by the Triangle Trio

An informal tryout of the proposed handicap list of the new Indoor Polo Association marked last night's game between the Tiger and the Triangle trio in the Collard Riding Acad-

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